

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 44 public bills, H.R. 1597–1640; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 29; and H. Res. 171–174, were introduced. **Pages H2031–33**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2035–36**

Reports Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 173, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare sustainable growth rate and strengthen Medicare access by improving physician payments and making other improvements, to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes, and providing for proceedings during the period from March 27, 2015, through April 10, 2015 (H. Rept. 114–50).

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Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Mooney (WV) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1903**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Tim Crumpton, Cleburne County Baptist Church, Heber Springs, Arkansas.

Page H1903

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a voice vote. **Pages H1903, H2021**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:05 a.m. for the purpose of receiving His Excellency Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. The House reconvened at 12:29 p.m., and agreed that the proceedings had during the Joint Meeting be printed in the Record.

Joint Meeting to receive His Excellency Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan: The House and Senate met in a joint session to receive His Excellency Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. He was escorted into the Chamber by a committee comprised of Representatives McCarthy, Scalise, McMorris Rodgers, Walden, Messer, Foxx, Rogers (KY), Royce, Thornberry, Nunes, Frelinghuysen, Granger, Pelosi, Hoyer, Becerra, Crowley, DeLauro, Edwards, Engel, Eshoo, Jackson Lee, Davis (CA), Schiff, Moulton; and Senators McConnell, Cornyn, Hatch, Barrasso, Blunt, Wicker, Corker, Durbin, Murray, Stabenow, Menendez, and Murphy. **Pages H1904–08**

Establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting

forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 27, establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 228 yeas to 199 nays, Roll No. 142. **Pages H1909–H2021**

Agreed to:

Price (GA) amendment in the nature of a substitute (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 114–49) that increases new budget authority for the Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism function (Function 970) by \$2 billion, from \$94 billion to \$96 billion in Fiscal Year 2016. The amendment increases the outlay amounts for OCO over the period of Fiscal Years 2016 to 2025. As a consequence of the increase in OCO/GWOT, conforming increases are made in total budget authority and outlays, deficits, interest, debt subject to limit, and debt held by the public. Even with the increase in overall budget and outlays, the budget resolution remains in balance in Fiscal Year 2024 and thereafter. The amendment also strikes a deficit-neutral reserve fund for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism in section 513 of the reported resolution (by a recorded vote of 219 yeas to 208 nays, Roll No. 141). **Pages H1998–H2017, H2018–19**

Rejected:

Ellison amendment in the nature of a substitute (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 114–49) that sought to establish funding levels to provide the opportunities American families need. The budget creates 8.4 million high quality jobs, while reducing the deficit and providing a boost to America's long-term global competitiveness (by a recorded vote of 96 yeas to 330 nays, Roll No. 136); **Pages H1930–38, H1980**

Butterfield amendment in the nature of a substitute (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 114–49) that sought to make investments in education, job training, transportation and infrastructure, and advanced research and development programs that will accelerate our economic recovery. It includes funding for a comprehensive jobs bill and targeted investments to reduce and eradicate poverty in America. Additionally, the amendment protects the social safety net without cutting Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, or SNAP. The amendment raises new revenue by making our tax system fairer, saving more than \$1.9 trillion on the deficit over the next decade. The amendment will reduce our annual budget deficit to 2.3% of GDP by FY 2025 (by a recorded vote of 120 yeas to 306 nays, Roll No. 137);

Pages H1938–46, H1981

Stutzman amendment in the nature of a substitute (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 114–49) that sought to establish the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025. Balances in six years, encourages pro-growth tax reform, and provides for our national defense (by a recorded vote of 132 ayes to 294 noes, Roll No. 138);

Pages H1946–63, H1981–82

Van Hollen amendment in the nature of a substitute (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 114–49) that reflects policies that will put the federal budget on a fiscally responsible path, with debt declining as a share of the economy. It sought to provide for tax policies that help the middle class and those working their way into the middle class by raising the take-home pay of hard-working Americans, and rejects the sequester caps to make needed investments that create jobs for those still seeking work, that educate our children and prepare them for success, and that sharpen the nations competitive edge (by a recorded vote of 160 ayes to 264 noes, Roll No. 139); and

Pages H1963–80, H1982–83

Price (GA) amendment in the nature of a substitute (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 114–49) that sought to retain the \$94 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism function (Function 970) in Fiscal Year 2016. The amendment also retains a deficit-neutral reserve fund for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism in section 513. This section permits the Chair of the Committee on the Budget to adjust the 302(a) allocations to the Committee on Appropriations, and other appropriate levels, for any appropriations measure that provides new budget authority for Overseas Contingency Operations in excess of \$73.5 billion up to \$94 billion in Fiscal Year 2016 (by a recorded vote of 105 ayes to 319 noes, Roll No. 140).

Pages H1983–98, H2017–18

H. Res. 163, the rule providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 27) was agreed to yesterday, March 24th.

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 172, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives.

Page H2021

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, March 26.

Page H2031

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Slain Officer Family Support Act of 2015: H.R. 1527, to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of the families of New York Police Department Detectives Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos.

Pages H2021–23

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H1909.

Senate Referral: S. 301 was held at the desk.

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Quorum Calls Votes: Six recorded votes and one yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1980, H1981, H1981–82, H1982–83, H2018, H2018–19, and H2020–21. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Committee Meetings

IMPLICATIONS OF POTENTIAL RETALIATORY MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST THE UNITED STATES IN RESPONSE TO MEAT LABELING REQUIREMENTS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing to examine the implications of potential retaliatory measures taken against the United States in response to meat labeling requirements. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REAUTHORIZING THE CFTC: MARKET PARTICIPANT VIEWS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy and Credit held a hearing on reauthorizing the CFTC: market participant views. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention budget. Testimony was heard from Thomas Frieden, Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and Anne Schuchat, Assistant Surgeon General, Public Health Service, Director, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control.

APPROPRIATIONS—INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY AND GLOBAL THREAT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on Intelligence Community and Global Threat budget. Testimony was heard from James R. Clapper, Director, National Intelligence. This hearing was closed.